

Senate File 446 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 446
BY COMMITTEE ON VETERANS
AFFAIRS

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 288)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act related to public sector preferences for veterans in
2 appointment and employment.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 8A.403 Veterans preferences.

2 The department shall administer and enforce the laws of this
3 state under chapter 35C.

4 Sec. 2. Section 35C.1, subsections 1, 3, and 4, Code 2015,
5 are amended to read as follows:

6 1. ~~In every public department and upon all public works in~~
7 ~~the state, and of the counties, cities, and school corporations~~
8 ~~of the state~~ all jobs of the state and its political
9 subdivisions filled by appointment or examination, veterans who
10 are citizens and residents of the United States are entitled to
11 preference in appointment and employment over other applicants
12 of no greater qualifications. ~~The preference in appointment~~
13 ~~and employment for employees of cities under a municipal~~
14 ~~civil service is the same as provided in section 400.10.~~ For
15 purposes of this section, "veteran" means as defined in section
16 35.1 except that the requirement that the person be a resident
17 of this state shall not apply.

18 3. In all jobs of the state and its political subdivisions
19 ~~of the state which~~ that are to be filled by competitive
20 examination or by appointment, public notice of the application
21 deadline to fill a job shall be posted at least ten days before
22 the deadline in the same manner as notices of meetings are
23 posted under section 21.4.

24 4. For jobs ~~in~~ of the state and its political subdivisions
25 ~~of the state~~ that are filled through a point-rated qualifying
26 examination, the preference afforded to veterans shall be
27 equivalent to that provided for ~~municipal civil service systems~~
28 in section ~~400.10~~ 35C.3A.

29 Sec. 3. Section 35C.1, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2015,
30 is amended to read as follows:

31 a. In all jobs of the state and its political subdivisions,
32 an application form shall be completed. The application form
33 shall contain an inquiry into the applicant's military service
34 during the wars or armed conflicts as specified in subsection
35 1. The state and each of its political subdivisions shall

1 provide each applicant who indicates the applicant's status
2 as a veteran under this section with the written statement
3 developed pursuant to subsection 5.

4 Sec. 4. Section 35C.1, Code 2015, is amended by adding the
5 following new subsection:

6 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. The department of administrative
7 services, in consultation with the office of the attorney
8 general, shall develop a written statement which sets forth in
9 simple and nontechnical terms the rights and duties contained
10 in this chapter. The written statement shall be posted and
11 remain posted on the attorney general's internet site and the
12 internet sites of the department of veterans affairs and the
13 department of administrative services.

14 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. **35C.3A Preferences.**

15 In all examinations and appointments under this chapter,
16 other than promotions or the appointment of a chief of police
17 or chief of a fire department, veterans who are citizens and
18 residents of the United States, shall have five preference
19 points added to the veteran's grade or score attained in
20 qualifying examinations or tests for appointment to positions
21 and five additional preference points added to the grade or
22 score if the veteran has a service-connected disability or
23 is receiving compensation, disability benefits, or pension
24 benefits under laws administered by the United States
25 department of veterans affairs. However, the preference
26 points shall be given only upon passing the exam and shall not
27 be the determining factor in passing. Veteran's preference
28 points shall be applied once to the final scores used to rank
29 applicants for selection for an interview. For purposes of
30 this section, "veteran" means as defined in section 35.1 except
31 that the requirement that the person be a resident of this
32 state shall not apply.

33 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. **35C.9 Administration — enforcement.**

34 The department of administrative services shall administer
35 and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

1 Sec. 7. REPEAL. Section 400.10, Code 2015, is repealed.

2	EXPLANATION
---	-------------

3 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
4 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

5 This bill relates to appointment and employment preferences
6 for veterans in the public sector.

7 The bill amends Code chapter 35C (veterans preference)
8 to provide that for all jobs of the state and its political
9 subdivisions filled by appointment or examination, veterans
10 who are citizens and residents of the United States are
11 entitled to preference in appointment and employment over
12 other applicants of no greater qualifications and repeals the
13 veterans preferences in city employment that are contained in
14 Code section 400.10.

15 The bill provides a preference of five preference points for
16 veterans in all examinations and appointments by the state and
17 its political subdivisions except for promotions or appointment
18 of a chief of police or a chief of a fire department. The bill
19 further provides an additional preference of five points for
20 veterans with service-connected disabilities.

21 The bill requires that the department of administrative
22 services, in consultation with the attorney general, develop
23 a written statement that sets forth the rights and duties
24 contained in Code chapter 35C, and requires that the statement
25 be provided to certain applicants for all state and political
26 subdivision jobs.

27 The bill requires that the department of administrative
28 services administer and enforce the provisions of Code chapter
29 35C.